

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark Gebhardt on 15 May 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

**1.** In claim 1, beginning at line 27, please amend the following:

--providing one or more of the defined PCP motifs for output to at least one of a user, a display, a memory component, and another computer--

And replace with:

“outputting one or more of the defined PCP motifs to at least one of a user, a display, and a file in user readable format.”

**2.** In claim 5, beginning line 1, please amend the following:

--The method of claim 4--

And replace with:

“The method of claim23”

**3.** In claim 12, beginning line 29, please amend the following:

--PCP motifs are provided for output to at least one of a user, a display, a memory component, and another computer.--

And replace with:

“PCP motifs are output to at least one of a user, a display, and a file in user readable format”.

**4.** In claim 23, beginning line 4, please amend the following:

--motifs for output to at least one of a user, a display, a memory component, and another computer.--

And replace with:

“motifs for output to at least one of a user, a display, and a file in user readable format.”

### **Reasons for Allowance**

The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1-3 and 5-23 are allowed because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest that each amino acid in a multiple sequence alignment be described quantitatively in terms of the plurality of PCP descriptors as a series of "N" eigenvectors resulting in "N" PCP described sequence alignments, as set forth in the Interview Summary of 5 May 2008 .

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

### **Drawings**

The Replacement Drawings submitted 29 September 2004 are accepted.

### **Conclusion**

Claims 1-3 and 5-23 are allowed. Claim 4 has been cancelled.

### **Inquiries**

Papers related to this application may be submitted to Technical Center 1600 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Technical Center 1600 via the PTO Fax Center. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notices published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1988), 1156 OG 61 (November 16, 1993), and 1157 OG 94 (December 28, 1993) (See 37 CFR § 1.6(d)). The Central Fax Center Number is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lori A. Clow, Ph.D., whose telephone number is (571) 272-0715. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 10 am to 6:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marjorie Moran can be reached on (571) 272-0720.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to (571) 272-0547.

Patent applicants with problems or questions regarding electronic images that can be viewed in the Patent Application Information Retrieval system (PAIR) can now contact the USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center (Patent EBC) for assistance. Representatives are available to answer your questions daily from 6 am to midnight (EST). The toll free number is (866) 217-9197. When calling please have your application serial or patent number, the type of document you are having an image problem with, the number of pages and the specific nature of the problem. The Patent Electronic Business Center will notify applicants of the resolution of the problem within 5-7 business days. Applicants can also check PAIR to confirm that the problem has been corrected. The USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center is a complete service center supporting all patent business on the Internet. The USPTO's PAIR system provides Internet-based access to patent application status and history information. It also enables applicants to view the scanned images of their own application file folder(s) as well as general patent information available to the public.

/Lori A. Clow, Ph.D./  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1631